I hereby certify that this correspondence is being filed electronically with the United States Patent and Trademark Office on:

Date: February 23, 2006 Name: _/Gustavo Siller, Jr./

BRINKS HOFER GILSON &LIONE

Our Case No. 9281-4631 Client Reference No. N US02078

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
Masamichi Saito et al.) Examiner: William Joseph) Klimowicz) Art Unit: 2652
Serial No. 10/642,899	
Filing Date: August 18, 2003	
For: Dual-Type Magnetic Detecting Element In Which Free Magnetic Layer And Pinned Magnetic Layer Have Suitably Selected ß Values)))

STATUS INQUIRY

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Applicant filed the above-identified application on August 18, 2003, but has not yet received a first Office Action. Please advise the undersigned attorney as to when a first Office Action is expected to issue on this application.

Respectfully submitted.

/Gustavo Siller, Jr./ Registration No. 32,305 Attorney for Applicants

BRINKS HOFER GILSON & LIONE P.O. BOX 10395 CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60610 (312) 321-4200